

School Committee: Mr. Stewart, Ms. Silvers, Mr. Valentini, Ms. Lartigue, Ms. Rundle, Mr. Batacchi, Mr. Flynn, Ms. Sparhawk

Absent: Ms. Sahn; Mr. Sears

Administrators: Mr. Hastings, Mr. Turner, Mr. Thompson

Press: CTSB Television; Julie Ruth, Berkshire Record

Student Representative: Maya Neski; Brian Dillon

Others: Ms. Stacy Burgess, Ms. Sarah Siket, Ms. Linda Higgins

1. Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Stewart began the meeting with an expression of appreciation to all who had worked to pass the school's budget at the recently held town meetings.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Batacchi, to approve the minutes of Meeting #1,491. It was so voted.
3. **Communications from the Audience Pertaining to this Evening's Agenda**
  - A. Welcome/Introduction of Ms. Stacy Burgess, Who Will Assume the Role of Elementary Principal on July 1, 2015: Mr. Hastings introduced Ms. Burgess, noting that she had spent the day visiting the community schools and hopes to return for another day-long visit before school gets out. Superintendent Hastings stated that Ms. Burgess will take over as Elementary Principal on July 1.
  - B. Student Representative Report: Student Representatives Maya Neski and Brian Dillon updated the Committee regarding accomplishments of the Student Council this past year. They reported that the Council is wrapping up end fundraisers and other activities and saying goodbye to the seniors.
  - C. There were no comments from the audience.
4. **Updates/Presentations**
  - A. **Edgenuity:** Mr. Christopher Thompson, District Technology Director, presented a request for approval of a \$25,000 contract with Edgenuity. He explained the many advantages of the program to students and to staff, and he explained that no new money would be sought. Rather, other programs would not be renewed, and the money that was budgeted for those programs would be put toward Edgenuity.  
  
Following discussion and a question/answer session, Ms. Silvers moved to approve the contract for \$25,000 with Edgenuity, with a proviso that the Superintendent gives final approval of the contract and that it has all factors included. Ms. Lartigue seconded the motion.

Ms. Sparhawk arrived at 6:33 p.m.

Mr. Valentini clarified that approval of the motion would allow the Superintendent and administration to enter into a contract with Edgenuity.

Mr. Flynn suggested amending the motion to allow the administration to go forward with the purchase, and to approve the contract when it was available. Ms. Silvers pointed out that waiting too long could delay necessary professional development initiatives.

Chairman Stewart suggested modifying the motion to say they were approving entering into a contract with Edgenuity, pending final recommendation from the administration for approval at the June 11 School Committee meeting.

Ms. Silvers then modified the motion to approve entering into a contract with Edgenuity, pending a final recommendation from the administration on June 11. She asked Mr. Thompson if that would work.

Mr. Thompson explained that he had two possible contracts. One would be for one year at \$25,000, and the other would be for three years, locking in the \$25,000 per year. He offered to go to his office and print out copies of each for the School Committee members.

Mr. Flynn said that the School Committee only needed to approve the program. He said that the Superintendent could approve a three-year contract.

Ms. Silvers then moved to approve the adoption of Edgenuity and to enter into a contract with Edgenuity. Mr. Valentini seconded the motion. The vote:

Mr. Flynn	yes	Mr. Batacchi	yes	Ms. Lartigue	yes
Ms. Sparhawk	yes	Ms. Silvers	yes	Ms. Rundle	yes
Mr. Valentini	yes				

The Committee thanked Mr. Thompson et al for their extensive research in this regard.

## 5. Business

### B. Request for Approval of Overnight Field Trips:

- 1) Confirmation of approval of Senior Class Trip: Mr. Flynn moved, seconded by Ms. Silvers, to approve the Senior Class trip to Lake George on June 1-2, 2015. It was so voted, unanimously.
- 2) Approval of SWAG Club Mr. Batacchi moved, seconded by Ms. Silvers, to approve the SWAG Club students' trip to Quincy, MA, June 18-19, 2015. It was so voted.

### A1. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Hastings reported the following:

- The Mt. Everett Band will perform in Memorial Day parades in the District towns.
- *Shrek* was a great success.
- A meeting was held with one selectman in Monterey regarding the Monterey School. They discussed enrollment and the efforts of the Early Childhood Committee to develop minimal optimal and maximum enrollment numbers. No commitments were made, but it was a valuable meeting.
- The Mt. Everett culinary class recently catered a luncheon for the New Marlborough Council on Aging. The Madrigals also attended and performed.
- The annual Agricultural Fair will take place on June 10.
- Mt. Everett Art Teacher Kari Giordano has been named recipient of this year's Kapteyn Award, given by the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.
- The 2015 Mt. Everett Yearbook has been received. The book was designed and published by Ms. Giordano, Ms. Casey, and Mt. Everett students.
- Mt. Everett has been awarded a bronze medal from US News & World Report.
- Field day will be on May 22 for grades EK-2.
- SWAG has adopted part of Route 7 for cleanup.

- The Mt. Everett art class, in conjunction with Kevin Wolgemuth’s English class, has entered a sculpture at the Mount in Lenox.
  - The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students recently traveled to Plimouth Plantation; 4<sup>th</sup> graders visited the CT Science Museum.
  - The mosaic over the drinking fountain has been completed. The theme is intellectual growth, and it was done by the Craft Class in the spring of this year.
  - The softball team’s record is 13 wins and 2 losses.
  - There was a “Bee” assembly at Undermountain today.
- C. School Committee Summer Schedule: It was agreed through consensus to hold School Committee meetings on June 25 and August 13.
- D. Financial Updates: Mr. Turner noted that the FY’14 audit has been completed, and the auditors would like to report to the Committee at the June 11 meeting. He also reported that a pre-construction meeting was held with the contractor on May 19.

Mr. Flynn moved, seconded by Ms. Sparhawk to approve a student activities account for the National Art Honor Society. It was so voted.

- E. Policy Subcommittee: Mr. Flynn reported that the subcommittee had met with the Early Childhood group. Ms. Rundle and Ms. Sparhawk will work on changes to the entrance age policy. Ms. Hubbard will look at ideal class sizes at each of the grade levels.

Finance Subcommittee: Mr. Valentini reported that the following:

- The contract for Net Metering credits is not yet available.
- At the recent Subcommittee meeting, Mr. Turner reported that he anticipates coming out of FY’15 with about \$200,000 to the good, and so keeping approximately \$550,000 in E&D.
- The Finance Subcommittee plans to look at stipended positions and to make recommendations at a future meeting.

Mr. Flynn left the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

6. Communications:

- Ms. Sarah Siket commented that she is proud of the senior class. Mr. Batacchi added that this year’s group was the best he had ever seen at the prom.
- Congratulations were offered to staff who have completed the SEI course.

- 5E. Collective Bargaining: Mr. Stewart stated that the Committee would enter into executive session to consider Superintendent David Hastings’ request to extend his contract until June 30, 2016, and not to return to open meeting. He added that future negotiations meetings with Units A & D are scheduled for May 26 and June 4.

The Committee moved to the Superintendent’s Office and entered into executive session at 7:21 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Lartigue, seconded by Ms. Sparhawk, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

***Documents presented at this meeting:***

- *Agenda, School Committee Meeting #1,492*
- *Minutes of Meeting #1,491*
- *Request for overnight field trip to Lake George, NY*
- *Request for overnight field trip to Quincy, MA*
- *Letter from Superintendent David B. Hastings, dated April 27, 2015*